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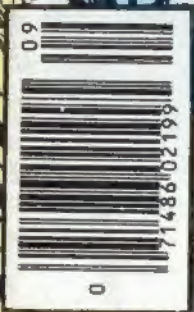
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY



# PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™

LIZARDS  
LIZARDS  
EVERYWHERE...





While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!**

BILL MANTLO JIM MOONEY FRANK SPRINGER NOVAK, LETTERS ALLEN MILGROM JIM SHOOTER  
WRITER ARTIST INKER ROUSSOS, COLORS EDITOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



MAYHEM OVER  
MANHATTAN...  
ON THE PATIO  
OF CURT  
CONNORS' PENTHOUSE  
APARTMENT, TO  
BE PRECISE!

**LIZARDS  
ON A HOT  
TIN ROOF!**

D-DOC CONNORS  
HAS BECOME THE  
LIZARD TO STOP  
THE IGUANA  
FROM HARMING  
HIS FAMILY!

BUT  
THAT'S LIKE  
FIGHTING  
FIRE WITH A  
FLAME-  
THROWER!

HEAR ME, IGUANA!  
NO ONE USURPS THE  
POWER OF THE LETHAL  
LIZARD--AND LIVES!

GETTING THE PICTURE,  
MARVELITES? WELL,  
STAY TUNED...THE BEST  
IS YET TO COME!

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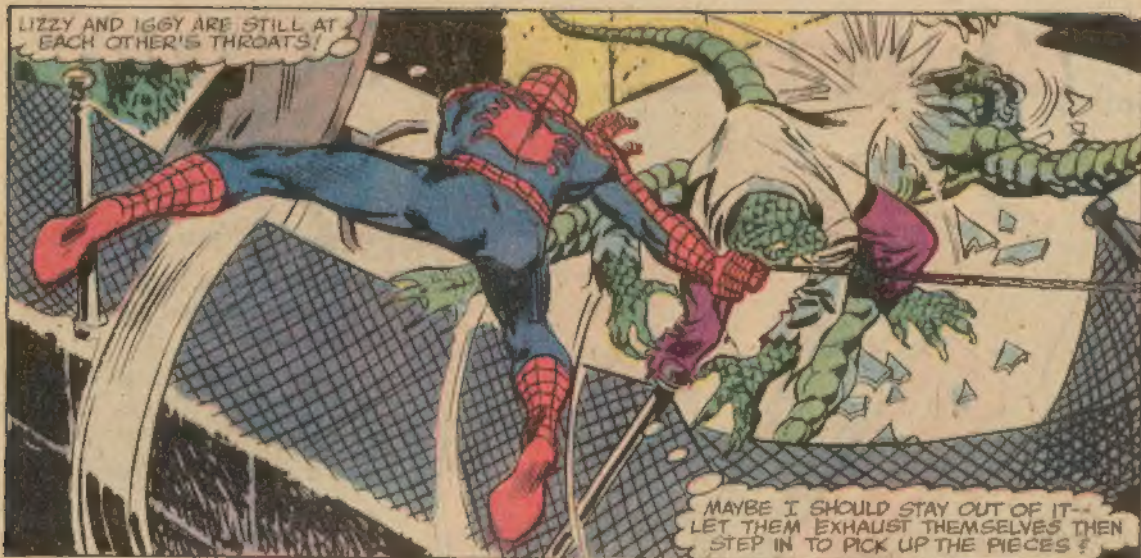
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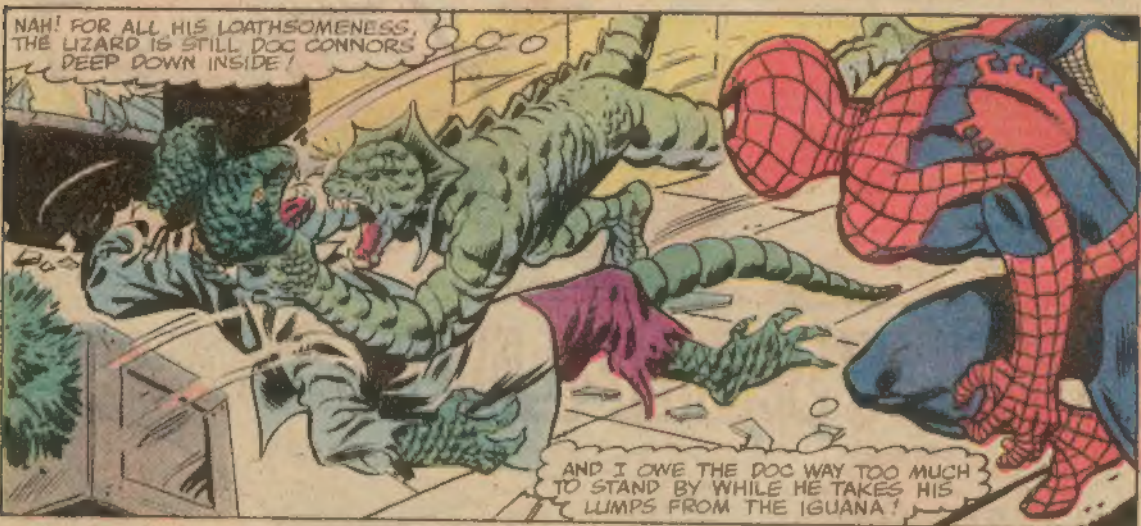


LIZZY AND IGGY ARE STILL AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS!



MAYBE I SHOULD STAY OUT OF IT-- LET THEM EXHAUST THEMSELVES THEN STEP IN TO PICK UP THE PIECES!

NAH! FOR ALL HIS LOATHSOMENESS, THE LIZARD IS STILL DOC CONNORS DEEP DOWN INSIDE!



AND I OWE THE DOC WAY TOO MUCH TO STAND BY WHILE HE TAKES HIS LUMPS FROM THE IGUANA!

SPIDER-MAN? DO NOT INTERFERE, INSECT!



GOT TO, LIVER-LIPS! THE IGUANA'S AS POWERFUL AS YOU ARE--

--AND JUST A TAD MORE SAVAGE!

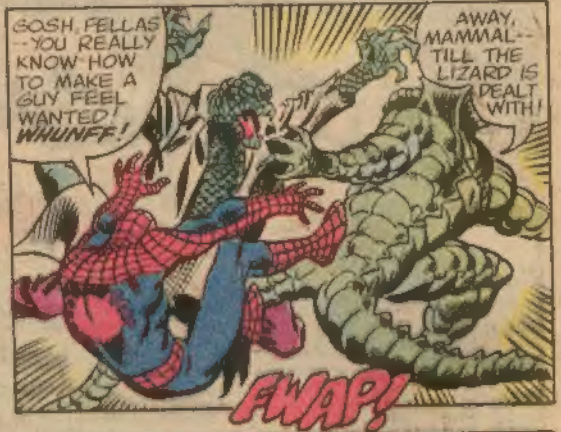
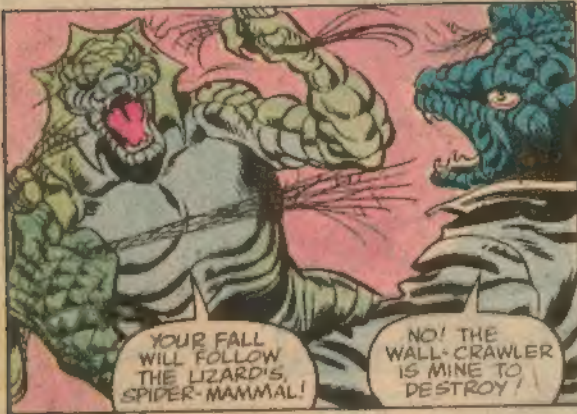


AS A RESULT OF DOC CONNORS' ENERVATOR IMBUING A TINY IGUANA WITH THE LIZARD'S POWER--

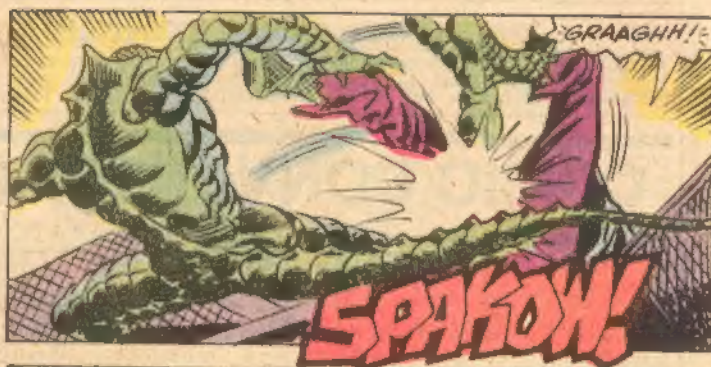
-- BUT NONE OF THE DOC'S HUMANITY, WHICH OFTEN WORKS AS A RESTRAINT ON THE LIZARD!

SEE LAST ISH--AL









THROWING THE LIZARD OFF THE ROOF WAS WRONG, AND THEY SAY TWO WRONGS DON'T MAKE A RIGHT--



SOUNDLESSLY, BOTH REPTILE-MEN PLUMMET THROUGH SPACE...



FOLLOWED BY OUR WONDROUS WALL-CRAWLER!

I DON'T KNOW IF EVEN THE LIZARD CAN SURVIVE A FALL FROM THIS HEIGHT! I'VE GOTTA GO AFTER HIM!

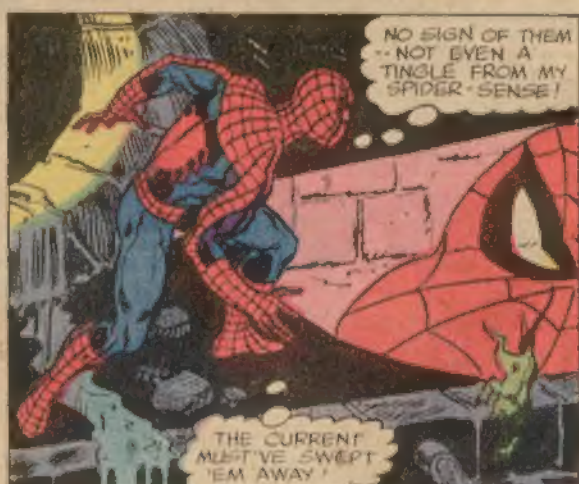
PLEASE, SPIDER-MAN... SAVE MY HUSBAND!



THAT'S MY PLAN, MRS. C --AIDED AND ABETTED BY... MY SPIDER-CHUTE!

CONTINUED AFTER 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING









BUT, AT LEAST THE LIZARD SURVIVED THE FALL! THAT'LL BE SOME SOLACE TO MRS. CONNORS!

SOME-- BUT NOT MUCH.

TELL THE LANDLORD HIS SIDEWALK'S A DISGRACE! A FELLA COULD GET HURT!

BUT-- BUT...!



SECONDS LATER...

I LOST THEM, MRS. CONNORS

CURT RECOGNIZED US, SPIDER-MAN!



I KNOW! HE BECAME THE LIZARD VOLUNTARILY THIS TIME-- TO SAVE YOU AND BILLY!



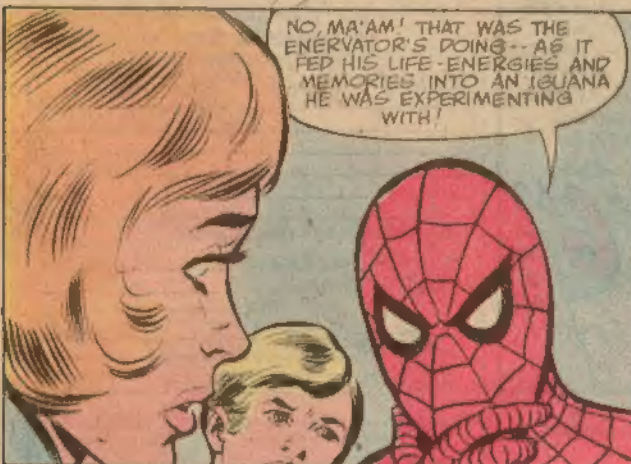
AND I THINK THE IGUANA NOT ONLY SAPPED THE LIZARD'S POWERS--BUT SOME OF HIS SAVAGERY!

THE ENERVATOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BOTH CHANGES!

CURT'S BEEN WORKING ON IT FOR MONTHS--



"-- BUT HE SEEMED SO OVERJOYED AT RECEIVING HIS RESEARCH GRANT TO WORK AT EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY THAT I MERELY ASSUMED HIS RECENT LISTLESSNESS STEMMED FROM OVERWORK!"



NO, MA'AM! THAT WAS THE ENERVATOR'S DOING-- AS IT FED HIS LIFE-ENERGIES AND MEMORIES INTO AN IGUANA HE WAS EXPERIMENTING WITH!



FED--? HEY! MAYBE THAT'S THE SOLUTION!









BUT AS PETE RACES AROUND A CORNER...

DR. SLOAN!

WHAT IN SAM HILL--?!



WELL, MR. PARKER-- WE MEET AGAIN!

I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, DOCTOR! IT'S JUST THAT I WAS IN A RUSH--

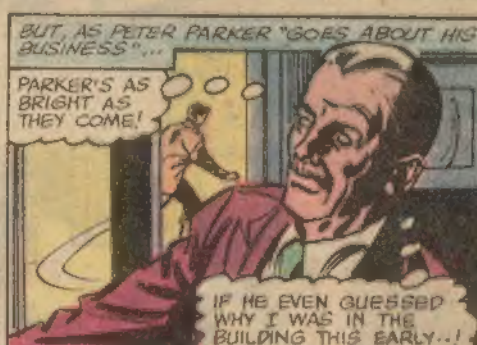


THAT SEEMS TO BE YOUR PERPETUAL STATE, YOUNG MAN!



BUT EAGERNESS TO FURTHER ONE'S STUDIES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED! GO ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS, MY BOY!

FANTASTIC! HE'S NOT EVEN UPSET! GRADUATE SCHOOL IS GOING TO BE A PICNIC WITH A DEPARTMENT HEAD LIKE DR. SLOAN!



BUT, AS PETER PARKER "GOES ABOUT HIS BUSINESS"...

PARKER'S AS BRIGHT AS THEY COME!

IF HE EVEN GUESSED WHY I WAS IN THE BUILDING THIS EARLY--!

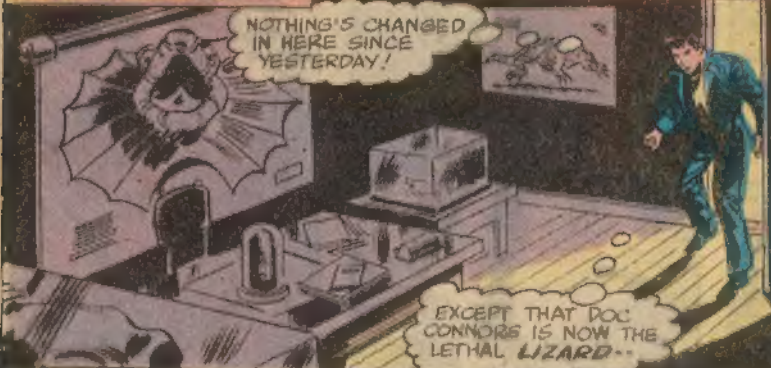


BUT HOW COULD HE-- HOW COULD ANYONE GUESS...

...THAT WITHIN HOURS I WILL BE THE MOST FAMOUS BIOPHYSICIST ALIVE?!

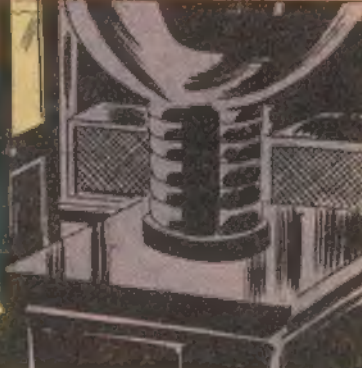
SINCE DR. SLOAN OFFERS NO EXPLANATION OF HIS THOUGHTS--

-- WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THEM AT FACE VALUE AS WE REJOIN PETER PARKER IN THE RESEARCH LAB OF DR. CURTIS CONNORS!

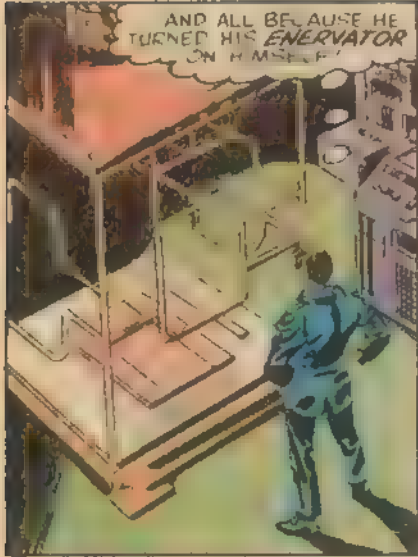


NOTHING'S CHANGED IN HERE SINCE YESTERDAY!

EXCEPT THAT DR. CONNORS IS NOW THE LETHAL LIZARD--







AND ALL BECAUSE HE  
TURNED HIS **ENERVATOR**  
ON HIMSELF.



WELL, PAKKER.  
YOU'RE SUPPOSED  
TO BE SOME  
KIND OF  
SCIENTIFIC  
WHIZ!



LET'S SEE YOU PROVE TRY  
REVERSING THE PROCESS THAT  
TURNED A DEFLATED  
RESEARCH SCIENTIST

INT A  
WAL NO  
KEIT LE



OKAY SO I CAN'T LURE  
THE LIZARD OR THE  
GUANA BACK HERE TO  
PUT MY THEORY TO THE  
TEST.



SO I'VE  
GOTTA FIGURE  
OUT THE  
ENERVATOR TO  
THEM BY  
DISASSEMBLING  
ITS MAIN  
COMPONENTS



AND REBUILDING IT INTO A  
PORTABLE UNIT THAT I CAN  
CARRY.

FIND THE LEFT  
WIRE UNIT - PHONY  
ENERGY WHILE THE  
RIGHT REPLACES IT



BUT WILL IT  
WORK?  
THEN THE  
END!



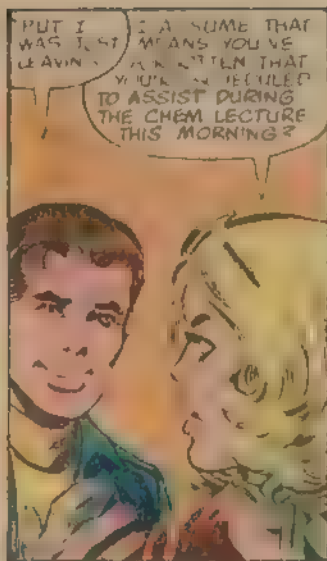
WELL, THE NEW WAY TO  
FIND OUT A PERSON'S  
IS IT BETTER HIGH  
MEAN OR COMING





GETTING AN EARLY START FOR A CHANGE MR PARKER?

MARCY KANE! UM--HI! I HAD SOME WORK TO FINISH



BUT I WAS JUST LEAVING

I A SURE THAT MEANS YOU'VE DECIDED TO ASSIST DURING THE CHEM LECTURE THIS MORNING?



GOSH, MARCY--I HAD FORGOTTEN LOOK SOMETHING IMPORTANT'S COME UP! CAN'T YOU COVER FOR ME?

NOT ON YOUR LIFE, MR PARKER!

I CAN TEACHING AS I TANT CONTINUALLY SHIRKS HIS DUTY

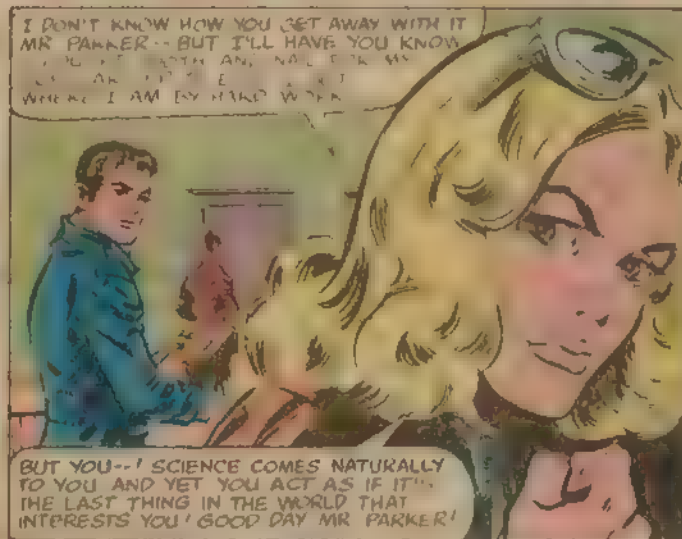


NONSENSE, MS KANE! THE LAD WAS HERE EARLY THIS MORN'N NO HARM IN YOUR COV'N'G HIM THIS ONCE!

BUT DOCTOR--

AH! ME! I'M SORRY MARCY

BESIDES, I'D RATHER HAVE PETER PARKER OFF CAMPUS THAN ON, IN CASE HE SAW WHAT I'VE BEEN UP TO



I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GET AWAY WITH IT MR PARKER-- BUT I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I'LL BE WITH AN NO LATER WHERE I AM BY HAND WORK

BUT YOU--! SCIENCE COMES NATURALLY TO YOU AND YET YOU ACT AS IF IT'S THE LAST THING IN THE WORLD THAT INTERESTS YOU! GOOD DAY MR PARKER!



WOW! ABOUT ME

NOPE

BUT I HAVEN'T GOT THE TIME TO TRAUGHTEN HE OUT RIGHT NOW!



NOT WITH DR LONNORS IN TROUBLE

NO IDEA WHERE HE AND THE 12 AN ENDED UP



BUT I'LL SCOUR ALL OF MANHATTAN IF I HAVE TO!

SOONER OR LATER MY SPIDER SENSE WILL GUIDE ME TO THEM

WOW! HE'S TAKEN TO THE HEAVS! A LITTLE MORE



# SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

Dear Marvel Masterworkers,

Hi! PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER MAN is a good mag, but it lacks what AMAZING SPIDER MAN has: characterization!

In PPTSS the supporting characters are ho hum dull. Get rid of the White Tiger and Moon Knight! They blend in nicely, but this is Spidey's mag. I'm starting to think of PPTSS as another MARVEL TEAM UP. Cut it out!

Let's see more of Betty, Harry, Flash, Sha Shan, and how about Joe Robertson? And his son Randy? And J. Jonah Jameson? And Glory Grant? And for God's sake bring Ned Leeds back! Gads! But honestly, I enjoy the mag far more than

Mike Kranz  
554 Ryan Lane  
West Dundee, IL 60118

Okay, here's the breakdown. Marv plans on deciding the fates of J. Jonah Jameson, Joe and Randy Robertson, Mary Jane Watson, Betty Brant and Ned Leeds in AMAZING SPIDER MAN. Bill, meanwhile, intends to concentrate in PPTSS on Pete's campus life, introducing a cast of graduate school characters as well as keeping tabs on the likes of Flash Thompson, Sha Shan, Hector Ayala and Holly Giffie from time to time. You've already met the gynecous Marcy Lane and the scholarly Doctor Stone and, in months to come, you'll see Pete's social life sketched out with more detail than ever before. You asked for it, you got it, it's Marvel!

Dear Marvel

I've just read PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER MAN #s 27 and 28, and I think Frank Miller is a real winner! You were right when you said that he could draw Spidey's unique spider-like movements. One question, though: I know Daredevil can read by reading the raised print of a page with his hyper-sensitive fingertips, but how on earth did he know he was observing the skyline over the Avenue of the Americas without stopping to "read" the street signs?

Joey Carmelli  
2695 Kennedy Blvd  
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Simple, Jose — he sensed the traffic flow patterns!

Dear Bill,

The "fifth wheel on the Spider Mobile" has come a long way since PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER MAN #1. We've seen lackluster plots and art, and even the wholly nauseating interference of the ewinish Rectorback. But, since the Rarey storyline, PPTSS has improved dramatically, taking its place proudly in the Spidey pantheon.

For one thing you, Bill, have been turning out really top-notch work. Though I've heard complaints about the return of the Enforcers, the Hypno-Hustler and his Mercy-Killer, the Masked Marauder and Carrion, I've enjoyed each and every one of those villains. They've all had their own brand of charm, seltre, nostalgia, or what-have-you. And also, for once, the book is really about Peter Parker, rather than his red-and-blue alter ego, which suits me just fine. Currently, the only thing AMAZING SPIDER MAN has over SPECTACULAR SPIDER MAN is the artwork. In the first we've been treated to Pollard, Starlin and Byrne, while this mag has shown us only Mooney Springer and Miller (who is quite good, but not up to Pollard's level). The stories, however, more than compensate for the art.

Kurt Busch  
Box 88, Lawman  
303 Stadium Place

Dear Marvel,

I've never been too impressed with the concept of PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER MAN, but I have to admit that the mag's getting better. Bill Mantlo seems to be getting used to a character he can't really control (because Mary Wolfman is handling Spidey once a month, too). Ideally, the same author should handle both strips so that Spidey's world wouldn't appear so schizophrenic.

But, if Bill can't totally control the strip, he's apparently decided not to allow it to merely be a second-stringer, either and I think PPTSS #28 was probably his Declaration of Independence. Oh, I had a good number of my usual reservations—I don't think thermonuclear devices go "tik tik tik" and if I had to disarm one I certainly wouldn't start by ripping it apart with the proportionate strength of a spider (whatever that means). But the rest of the mag was fine, Bill, the dialogue seemed realistic, the characters were consistent and well delineated and, that rarest of all comic mag occurrences, the motivations were believable.

So keep up the good work, folks!

Thomas J. Owens  
4550 N. Flowering Woods #115  
Tucson, AZ 85705

We find it like the arrangement Bill and Marv have got going between, respectively, PETER PARKER and AMAZING SPIDER MAN, Tom. After all, what is our friendly neighborhood wall-crawler if not schizophrenic?

Dear Marvel

Re: PETER PARKER #28. Why

...did the police try to arrest Spider Man when all criminal charges against him had been dropped by District Attorney Tower five months ago in AMAZING SPIDER MAN #186?

Did Mary Jane Watson say she hadn't really seen Peter since they broke up? They dated in MARVEL TEAM UP #75, and that comic specifically stated that they had broken up.

Did Al say that Spidey and Harry (as the Green Goblin) fought each other in AMAZING SPIDER MAN #180? Actually they haven't battled since AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #137. #180 they fought together against Dr. Bart Hamilton.

Let's work on some continuity, guys.

David Pratt  
1310 Hamner Lane  
Wayzata, MN 55391

The first is easy to answer: David. Despite Spidey's having been cleared of various past charges, the police had been hearing rumors all night that Spidey was somehow connected to the Masked Marauder and the Magpie. His appearance, and lack of an explanation, with the Marauder amidst the wreckage of a bank vault seemed to confirm those rumors, and the cops wanted to bring Spidey in for questioning *once* about his involvement with the Magpie. Secondly, it's hard enough trying to keep continuity straight in the two Spider Man solo books, and we just sort of slipped up when it came to MTU. Third, we goofed.

That about wraps up your comments regarding PPTSS #28. As this column is written months ahead of time, by now you've probably read the finale of the Carrion saga and, with this ish, finished off the Iguana miniseries. Next issue in PPTSS #35 we introduce a villain so bizarre we haven't even figured out a name for him/her yet. So be here in thirty days, True Believers, for the advent of



AND, HOURS LATER, IT IS A COLORFUL FIGURE WHO ARCS THROUGH THE MANHATTAN SKY LINED AGAINST THE DAYLIT EAST RIVER

I DID SOME SURREPTITIOUS PEEKING AT THE CITY WATER DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS AND FOUND THAT MOST EAST-SIDE SEWAGE LINES END HERE...

AT THE EAST RIVER WATER PURIFICATION PLANT!

IF THE TERROR TWINS WERE WEPT INTO THE PLANT,

IT WOULD BE A LOGICAL PLACE TO LAY LOW TILL NIGHTFALL!

"REALLY? WELL, I'LL USE THE PLANT AS A HIDE-OUT LIGHT!"

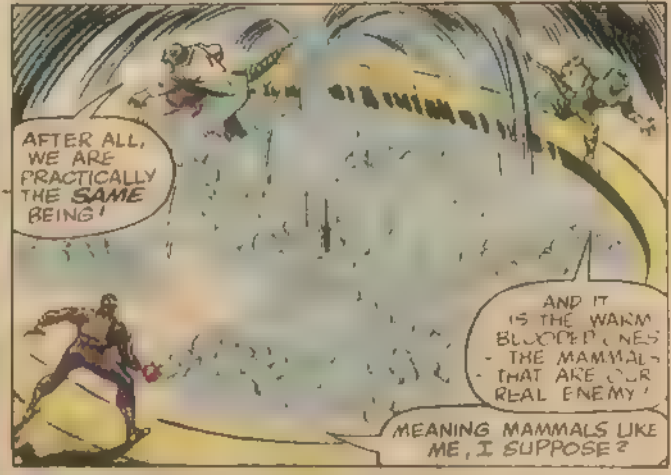
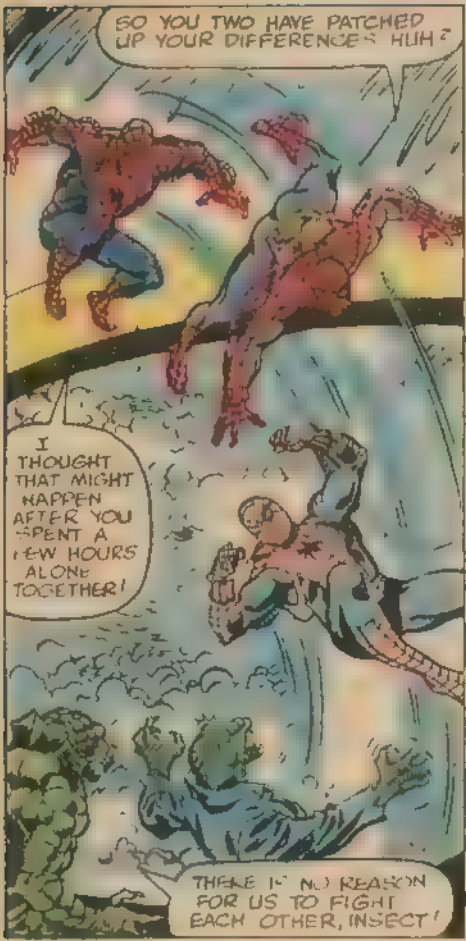
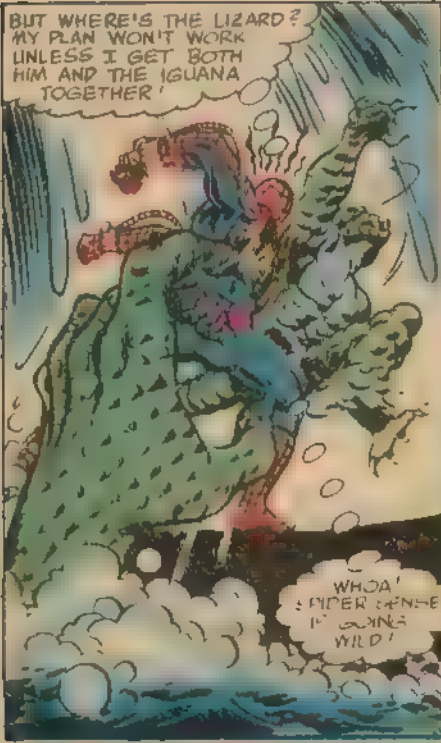
WELL, IT'S A POSSIBILITY, ANYWAY, SO I'D BETTER CHECK IT OUT!

"THE CEILING LIKE THE SPIDER-MAN CAUTIOUSLY..."















# BULLPEN BULLETINS

## —STAN'S SOAPBOX—

Sorry! You'll have to wait till next ish to learn more about ODYSSEY, the latest and greatest illustrated mag of our century! Why the wait? Simple. I don't want Marveldom Assembled to think I'm using this column, one of the most widely-read literary offerings in publishing, just for the purpose of huckstering new projects. We discussed ODYSSEY last month, so this time let's take a breather while we rap about another, totally different subject--- if I can think of one!

Hey, I know! Let's yak about our television shows. A lot of valorous viewers have written to ask why we allow the various producers to change our favorite heroes when they're filmed for tv. Well, if it'll make you feel any better, we hate those changes as much as you do. The problem is, we've had to allow the changes--- we weren't able to prevent them. You see, although I function as a "consultant", all I can do is butt in and give my opinions (which I do all the time!), but I can't force the producers or the networks to produce the shows the way you and I would want them to. Only the producer can make the final decisions, and Marvel has not yet been the producer.

But don't despair! The times they are a'changin'! We've decided that we'll no

longer allow anyone else to produce shows about our cavortin' little cast of characters! No sir! Not even if Aunt Petunia begs us to! From now on, anytime someone brings one of our stalwart swashbucklers to the little home screen, that someone will be Marvel! Yep, that's right. We're gonna produce, or co-produce any new Marvel shows ourselves!

I can almost hear some of you shouting, "But you guys aren't y producers! Waddaya know about producing television shows?" Glad you asked, frantic one! Mebbe we didn't know much about it before, but you can bet your final Hulk-out that we're mighty fast learners--- and the next time a Marvel superhero makes it to the screen, he's gonna be depicted the way we created him, the way we popularized him, and the way we want the world to see him!

Now, if that's not enough to get a real sizzling argument going amongst the ribald ranks of Marvel, wait'll you see what we come up with later on! But till then, the whole batty bullpen wishes you a superabundance of laughs, luck, and love! Stay cool, hang loose, and tread easy--- the best is yet to come!

Escalator

Stan

Shooter (who?) and bunches more! Thousands of fearless fans turned out to see our crazy crew and other guest pros, to buy and swap comics, and to hobnob about the latest happenings. Our gracious hosts Adam Malin and Gary Berman did a great job, and a good time was had by all!

ITEM! Great Moments in Comics Dep't: A ton of things are transpiring this month that you ought not to miss. Hold on to your seats friends, and keep a box of Kleenex handy, because never before in the history of Marvel have so much triumph, tragedy and sheer drama been packed into a single month! We can hear the cynics out there saying "grovetl!" Okay, guys, how's this for openers--- in the gripping pages of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #196, Peter Parker finds himself truly alone in the world for the first time. You dare not miss "Requiem: May Parker." Tragedy doesn't stop there, either, as in CAPTAIN AMERICA #237, Steve Rogers must face the irrevocable fact of Sharon Carter's death. This may well be one of the most powerful, poignant scenes ever depicted



ITEM! First and foremost, congratulations to ace editor, Rakish Rick Marshall and his beautiful wife Nancy on the arrival of brand new baby Heather Elizabeth! The whole Bullpen is bursting with best wishes for Heavenly Heather, and we're sure that now Marveldom Assembled shares our feelings. Incidentally, Sturdy Statman Stu Schwartzberg is offering five-to-one odds that Heather's first words are "Super Special." No takers so far.

ITEM! Speaking of Super Specials, elsewhere on this page we announce the long awaited Weirdworld Super Special that was mentioned in this column many moons ago. Back then, we planned for it to be absolutely breathtaking---a masterpiece. Lo, these many months,

we've been working on it, and as creative endeavors are wont to do, it has grown, developed, and changed. And we're proud to say, it's even better than we'd ever dared to hope! No words we say here can possibly do this work justice, so we simply want to thank Doug Moench, John Buscema, Rudy Nebres, Peter Lagler, Rick Marshall, Ralph Macchio and all the other folks, too numerous to mention, who contributed to this superlative effort. Thanks, guys!

ITEM! Several Bullpeners, including Stan the Man, were guests at the back-to-back Spring Creation Conventions held in New York and Philadelphia a few weeks back. Other notables present included John Buscema, John Romita, Gene Colan, George Perez, Jim

in illustrated fiction. Can Captain America rebuild his shattered life? We'll tell you this much--- after this landmark story, entitled "...From the Ashes," the Living Legend will never be the same again! Meanwhile, in the AVENGERS #187, at last, Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch learn the secret of their true origin! And speaking of origins, MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #65 introduces the new Giant-Man! What a month! There's more, of course, but we'll let you see for yourselves when you visit your local newsstand! Better go now, friends!

**HEY!**

STAN LEE PRESENTS  
A WEIRDWORLD EPIC

**WARRIORS  
OF THE  
SHADOW  
REALM**

FULL-COLOR, FABULOUS, FAR-OUT  
FANTASY WITH THREE-PAGE  
PULL-OUT PANORAMAS!

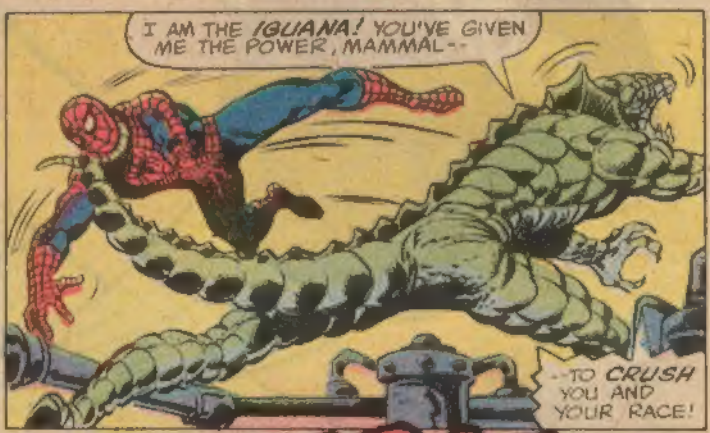
A BONUS POSTER  
IN EACH  
BOOK!

**THE COMICBOOK EVENT  
OF THE DECADE!**

**THE  
WILDEST,  
MOST BEAUTIFUL  
COMICS YOU'LL  
EVER  
SEE!**

**MARVEL SUPER SPECIALS 11, 12 AND 13  
ON SALE IN JUNE, AUGUST, AND  
OCTOBER! DON'T DARE MISS THEM!**









IS IT OVER? WAS THAT THE END OF THE IGUANA?



LOOKS THAT WAY, DOC! AND IF I FIGURED RIGHT, IT MAY HAVE BEEN THE END OF THE LIZARD AS WELL!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SPIDER-MAN? YOU MUST TELL ME!



I SIPHONED ALL OF THE LIZARD'S LIFE-ENERGY FROM YOU AND TRANSFERRED IT TO THE IGUANA!

ALL OF IT?

EVERY IOTA! THERE SHOULDN'T BE A TRACE OF LIZARDNESS LEFT IN YOU!



TH- THEN, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, I'M FREE OF THE NIGHTMARE THAT'S HAUNTED ME!?!

YEP! FREE TO GO BACK TO YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR WORK KNOWING YOU'LL NEVER BE BOTHERED BY THE LIZARD--

--OR THE IGUANA EVER AGAIN!

NEXT ISSUE: **COLLEGE DAZE!**